

FISCAL NOTE

SB 297 - HB 401

February 24, 1997

SUMMARY OF BILL: (1) Exempts van type vehicles used only to transport students to and from school-related activities from all federal standards, guidelines and recommendations; (2) Prohibits local education agencies from transporting more than 15 students to and from school activities in vans designed to carry between seven and 16 persons, provided the van is operated by or for the LEA under a rental or for hire arrangement for the specify activity and the LEA has obtained insurance to protect against loss or liability. Currently, the State Board of Education recommends that vans used to transport students to and from school related events comply with federal regulations.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

Assumes van type vehicles could be used to transport students to and from school-related activities rather than using regulation school buses for this purpose. However, this estimate assumes that most school systems do not own or will not choose to use van type vehicles which do not comply with federal safety guidelines.

This estimate does not address any potential liability for any damages which could arise from lawsuits brought against LEAs for utilizing van-type vehicles which do not comply with recommended federal safety guidelines (23 C.F.R. 1204-4 Guide 17).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director